



Department of Statistics
M A L A Y S I A

PRICE INTELLIGENCE (PI) – DATA GATHERING BY UTILIZING WEB CRAWLING

Big Data Applications and Utilising Non-Traditional Data Sources and
Methods for Official Statistics

10 June 2021

Ms. Mazliana Mustapa
Department of Statistics Malaysia



Make Sure You're
COUNTED



**MYSTATS
DAY**

20 OCT



2016 - 2030



@StatsMalaysia
@MyCensus2020

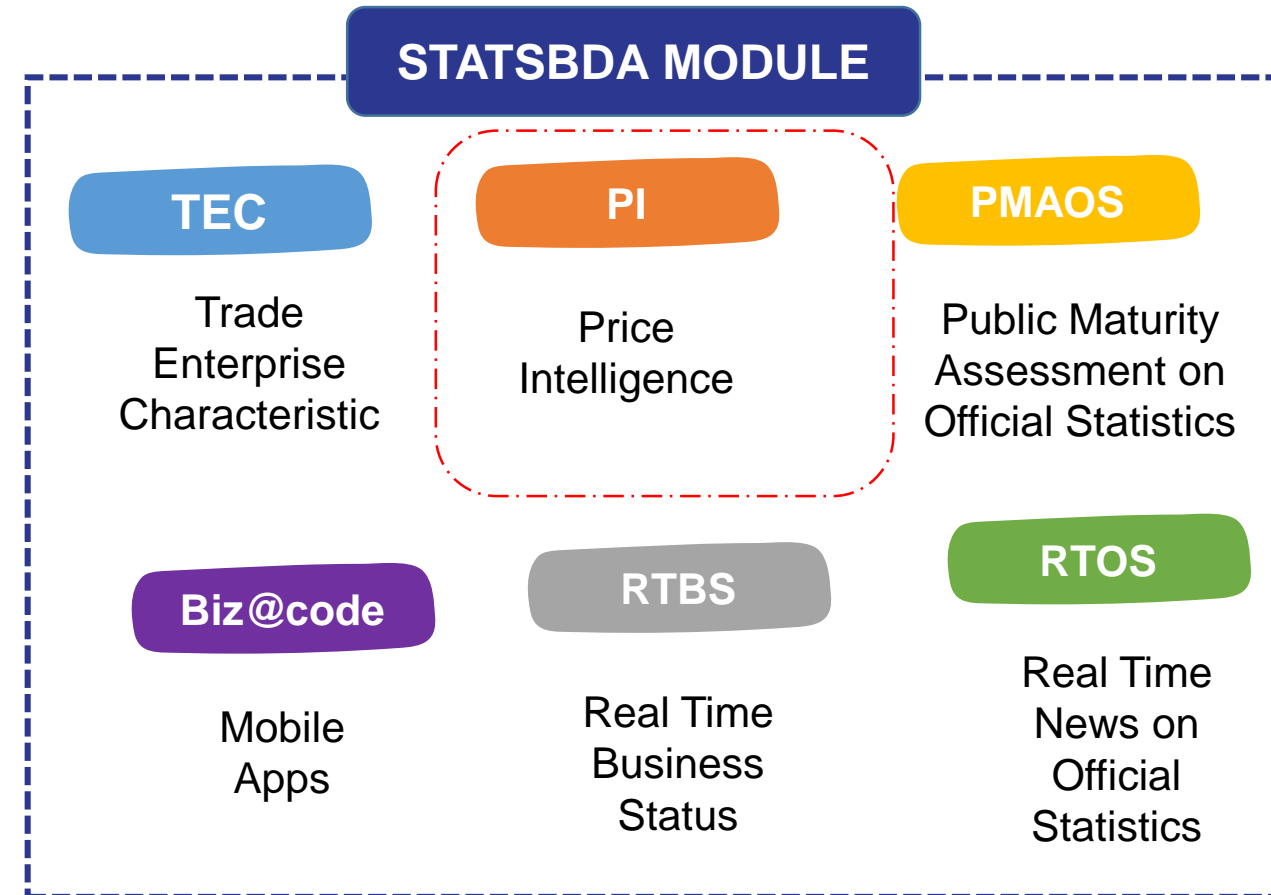
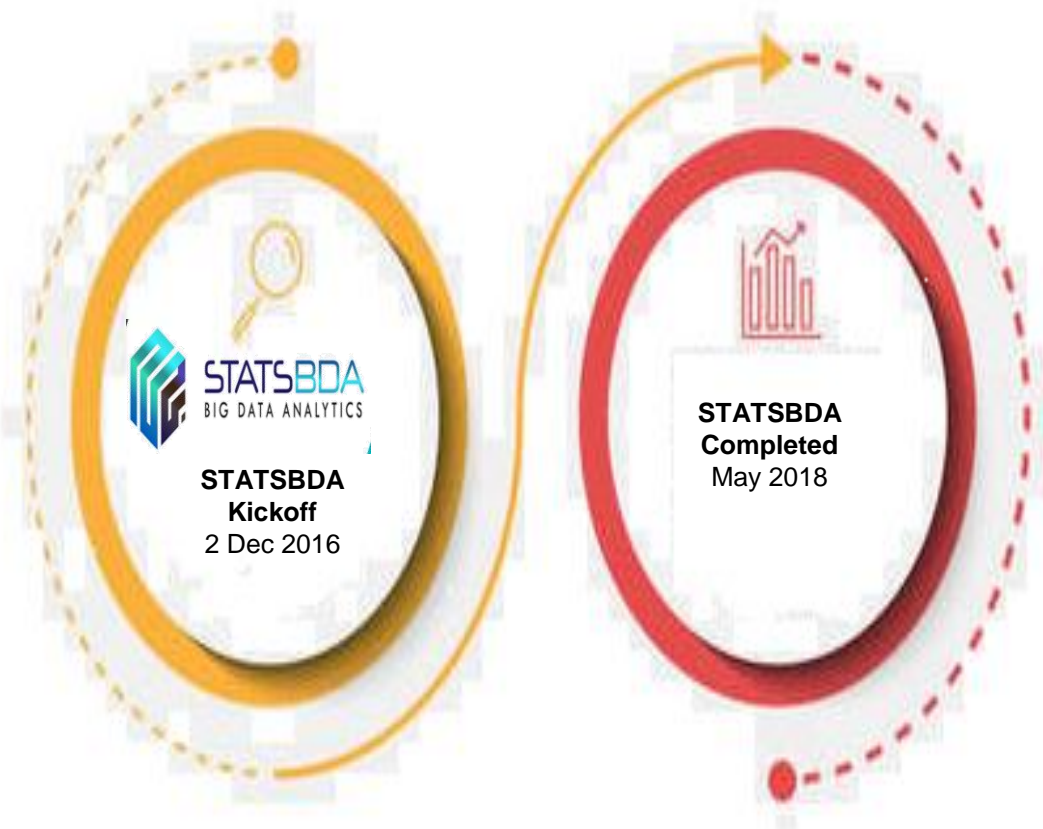


www.dosm.gov.my



www.mycensus.gov.my

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has initiated the implementation of BDA under the project of Statistics Big Data Analytics (STATSBDA).



STATSBDA OBJECTIVE



Price Intelligence

- leveraging the capability of Big Data in collecting large data from various sources and transform them into better structure
- different prices of the same good can be obtained through various online retailer websites, providing a modernized price data collection
- Transform from unstructured data into structured data to perform analysis

What is web crawler?

process of repetitively finding and fetching hyperlinks starting from a list of starting URLs.

What is web scraping?

Web-scraping is automatically retrieving and processing information from websites



PRICE INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVE

Objective

01

to give better insight in consumer price analysis and monitoring

02

to establish new price basket analysis which will be used as value added to the current Consumer Price Index



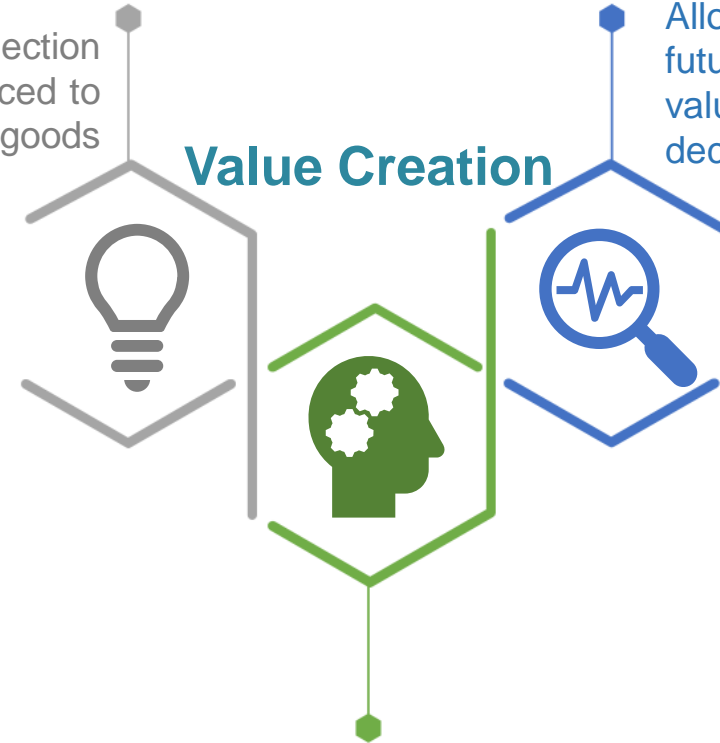
PI Visualization

Data Management

New Data Collection Methodology

New data collection process introduced to cover price of goods selling online

Value Creation



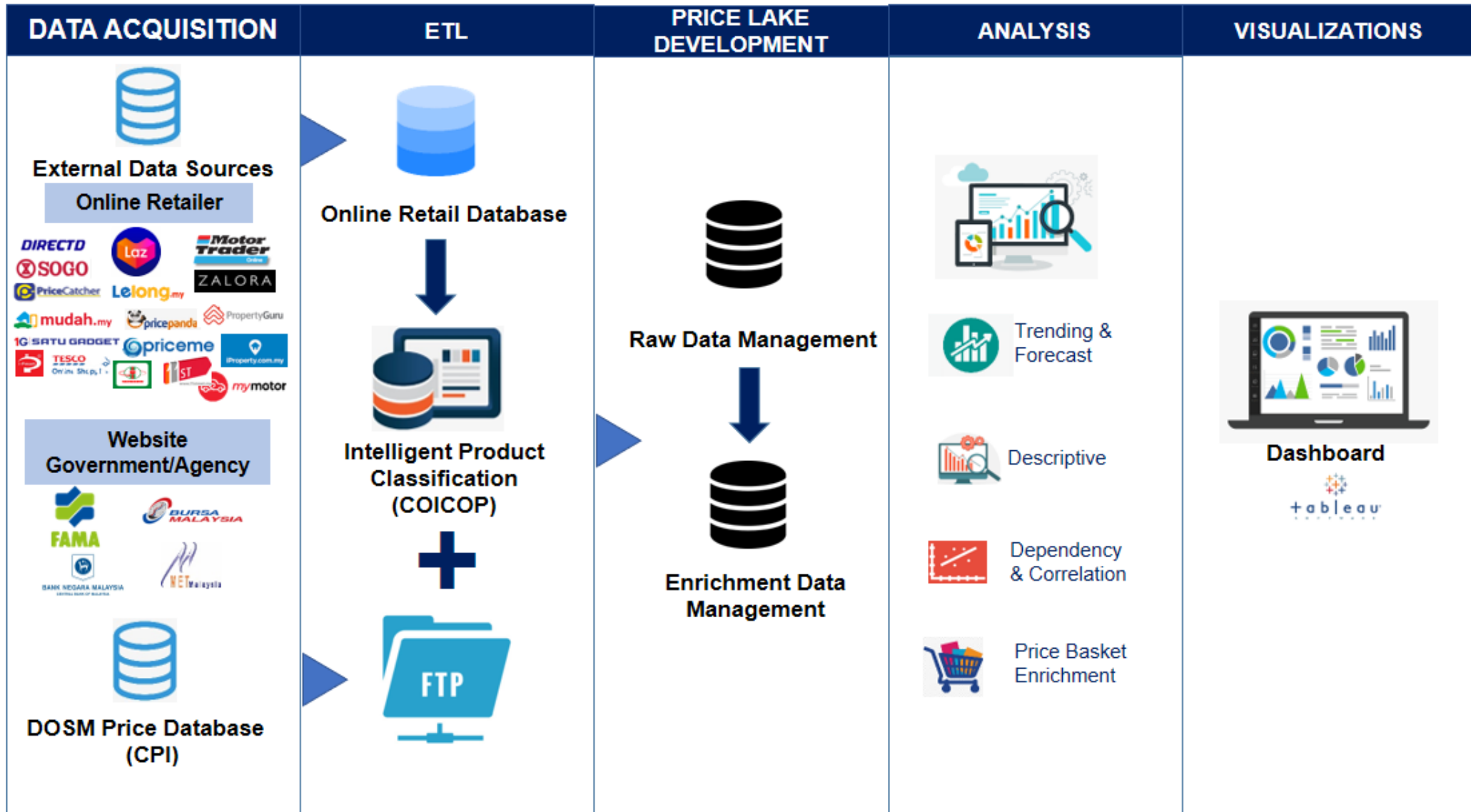
Holistic View in Online and Offline Prices

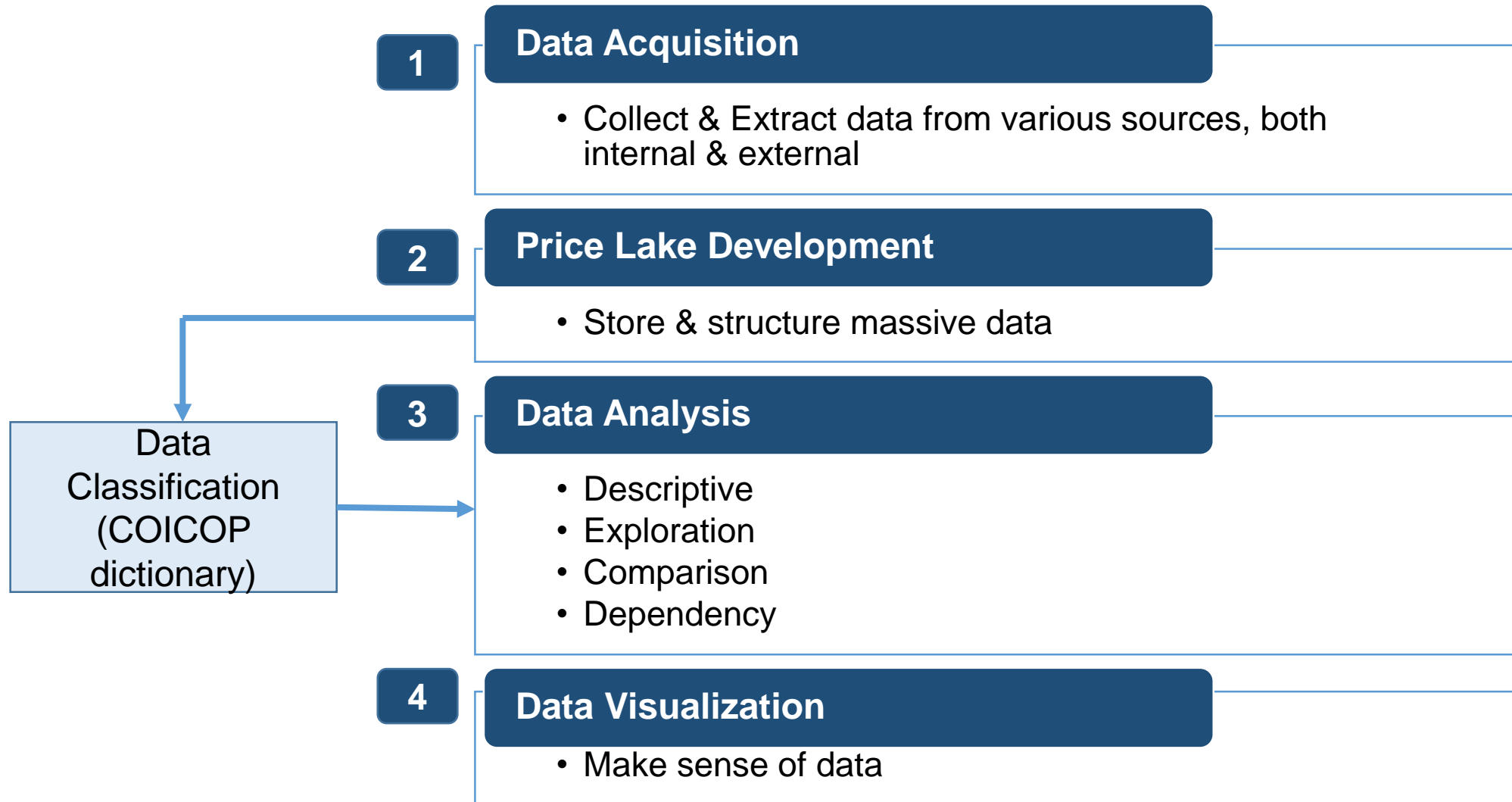
Allow monitoring and forecast future price trend and as valuable input for price control decisions by government

Transform of Business Process

New data collected enable to create holistic landscape of CPI monitoring process

PRICE INTELLIGENCE ARCHITECTURE

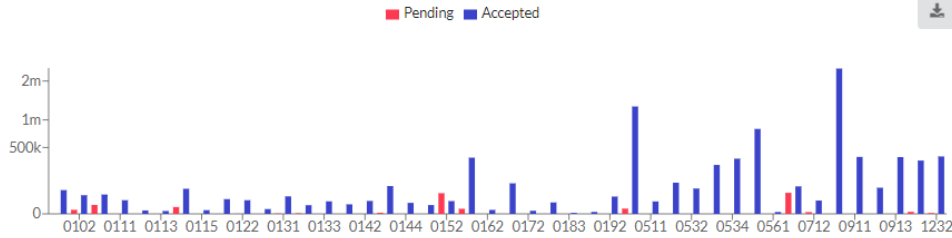




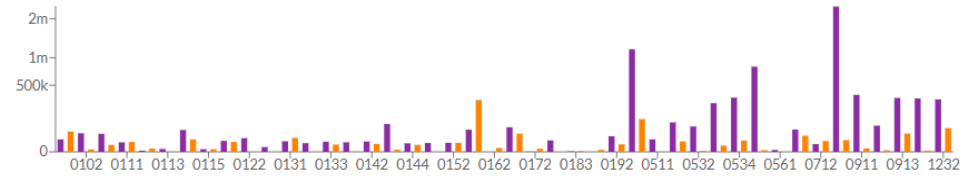
Note : COICOP → Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose

PI Dictionary

By 4D Code



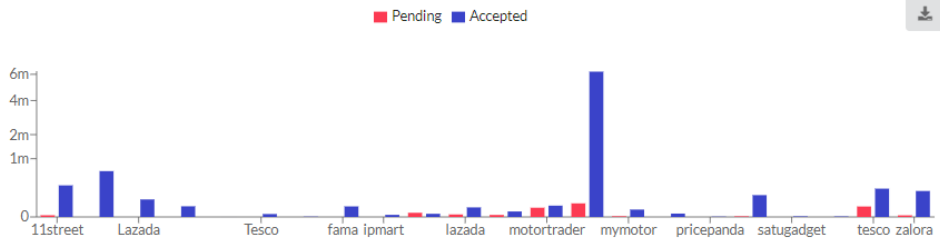
PARTIAL EXACT



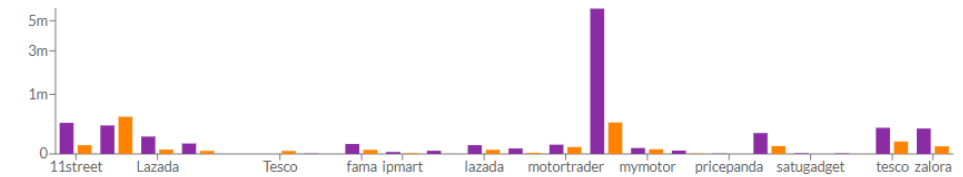
Pending/Accepted refers to the matching result at the 4 Digit COICOP level

Partially/exact refers to the matching result with MCOICOP

By Online Source



PARTIAL EXACT



11.3% exact match
88.7% partially match



The word most often appear on the item description

highly mesin singapore japan peti blouse basuh galaxy myset apple korea oppo latest incredible newest price paradise products sony refrigerator sleeve size dispenser machine 5s 6s merah over
plus xiaomi note **iphone** swap cuckoo white purifier baju shirt items pro air quartz penapis watch panasonic water huawei redmi toshiba trends




*Information based on 231 item specifications updates in PI Dictionary

PI Dictionary – Text matching scoring

Specification that meet requirement of items in CPI basket of goods with high scoring value will return exact match, mapped to 7 digits item specification MCOICOP code

Item Specification	6D Code	Item Code	Score	Match Type
 huggies dry diapers m 6-11 kg 72 pieces each	121321	1213212	75.14	EXACT
 drypers wee wee dry disposable diapers m 6-11kg 74pcs each	121321	1213211	76.59	EXACT
 huggies dry diapers m 6-11 kg 72 pieces each	121321	1213212	75.14	EXACT
 huggies dry diapers m 6-11 kg 72 pieces each	121321	1213212	75.14	EXACT
 drypers wee wee dry disposable diapers m 6-11kg 74pcs each	121321	1213211	76.59	EXACT
 drypers wee wee dry disposable diapers m 6-11kg 74pcs each	121321	1213211	76.59	EXACT

Meanwhile, broad specification items has only 6 digits item code to be matched with online item specification. Items is considered matching as long as the item is the same regardless of brand name, units etc

Item Specification	6D Code	Item Code	Score	Match Type
 drypers wee wee dry disposable diapers xxl 15+kg 40pcs each	121321		67.12	PARTIAL
 huggies dry pants diapers l 9-14kg 50pcs each	121321		64.44	PARTIAL
 tena value diapers, medium 8 pack x 12s	121321		50.86	PARTIAL



PI Dictionary



PI Dictionary

Search...

Q

☐
Only show Inactive

Page Size

▼

+

Classifier	4D Code ▲	6D Code	Description	Sample Keyword	Sample Variation	Item Code	Status
wearables	1213	121321	Lampin pakai buang untuk bayi/ Diapers for baby	<div> <div>Baby Diapers</div> <div>Diapers</div> <div>Disposable Diapers</div> <div>Drypers</div> <div>Genki</div> <div>Goon</div> <div>Huggies</div> <div>Mamypoko</div> <div>Pampers</div> <div>Whoopee</div> </div>	<div> <div>Classic</div> <div>Diapers</div> <div>Drynights</div> <div>Night</div> <div>Pants</div> <div>Petpet</div> <div>Super</div> <div>Tape</div> <div>Ultra</div> <div>Wee Wee Dry</div> </div>	1213211	✓
wearables	1213	121321	Lampin pakai buang untuk bayi/ Diapers for baby	<div> <div>Baby Diapers</div> <div>Disposable Diapers</div> <div>Genki</div> <div>Goon</div> <div>Huggies</div> <div>Lampin Pakai Buang Bayi</div> <div>Mamypoko</div> <div>Pampers</div> <div>Tesco Loves</div> <div>Whoopee</div> </div>	<div> <div>Baby</div> <div>Diapers</div> <div>Dry</div> <div>Drynights</div> <div>Drypant</div> <div>Extra</div> <div>Pants</div> <div>Tape</div> <div>Wee Wee Dry</div> <div>Wwd</div> </div>	1213212	✓
wearables	1213	121322	Syampu/perapi/ Shampoo/conditioner	<div> <div>CONDI</div> <div>Clairol</div> <div>PANTENE</div> <div>Perapi</div> <div>SHM</div> <div>SHP</div> <div>SSK</div> <div>Sunsilk</div> <div>Chinese Herbal Repairing</div> <div>Syampu</div> </div>		1213223	✓

PI Dictionary has been build in order to get the best match to MCOICOP 6/7 digits based on description of the items using text matching scoring

Dictionary will be updated regularly based on basket of goods in CPI

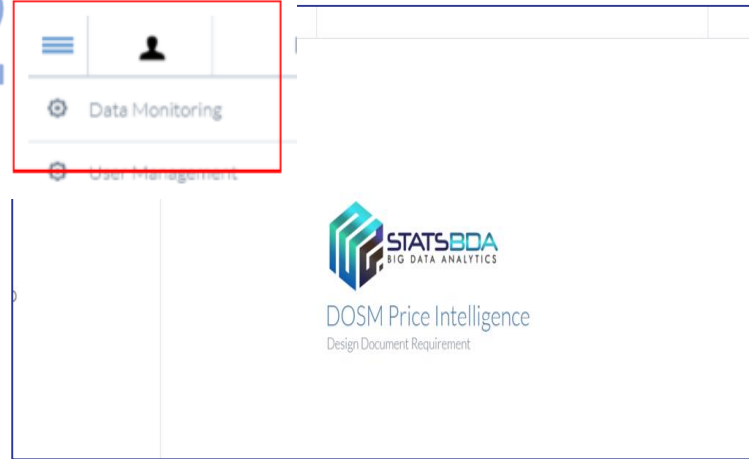
COICOP : Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose



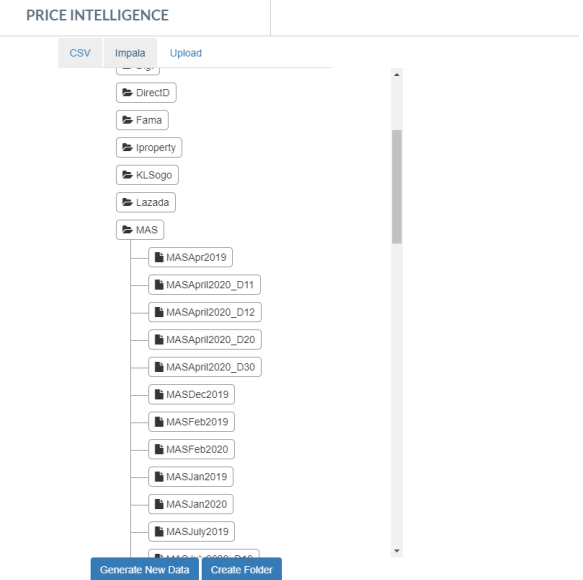
DATA SET GENERATOR

1

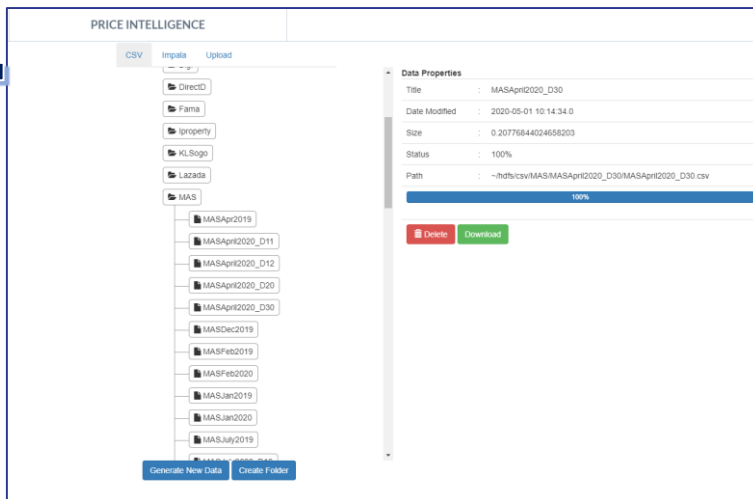
2



3



4



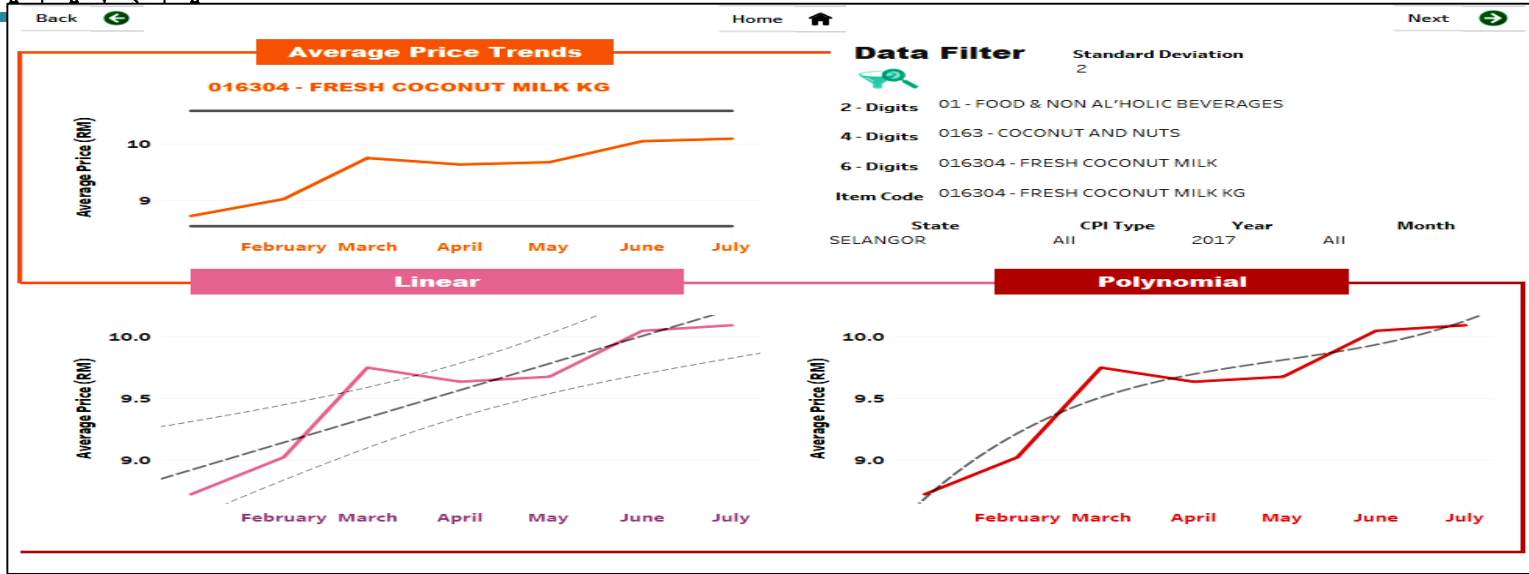
5

1	dates	site	flight_class	date_flight	flight_code	arrive	price	from	depart	dest
2	20200413	malaysiaairlines	business_smart	20200420	mh2	5:25	16,747	kuala lum	23:00	london lhr
3	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_flex	20200420	mh2	5:25	6,196	kuala lum	23:00	london lhr
4	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_promo	20200420	mh2	5:25	0	kuala lum	23:00	london lhr
5	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_smart	20200420	mh2	5:25	0	kuala lum	23:00	london lhr
6	20200413	malaysiaairlines	business_smart	20200420	mh3010	10:00	0	kota kinat	6:10	tawau twu
7	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_flex	20200420	mh3010	10:00	348	kota kinat	6:10	tawau twu
8	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_promo	20200420	mh3010	10:00	0	kota kinat	6:10	tawau twu
9	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_smart	20200420	mh3010	10:00	0	kota kinat	6:10	tawau twu
10	20200413	malaysiaairlines	business_smart	20200420	mh3012	14:50	0	kota kinat	12:00	tawau twu
11	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_flex	20200420	mh3012	14:50	503	kota kinat	12:00	tawau twu
12	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_promo	20200420	mh3012	14:50	0	kota kinat	12:00	tawau twu
13	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_smart	20200420	mh3012	14:50	0	kota kinat	12:00	tawau twu
14	20200413	malaysiaairlines	business_smart	20200420	mh3014	15:05	0	kota kinat	9:30	tawau twu
15	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_flex	20200420	mh3014	15:05	348	kota kinat	9:30	tawau twu
16	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_promo	20200420	mh3014	15:05	0	kota kinat	9:30	tawau twu
17	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_smart	20200420	mh3014	15:05	0	kota kinat	9:30	tawau twu
18	20200413	malaysiaairlines	business_smart	20200420	mh3016	15:05	0	kota kinat	12:15	tawau twu
19	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_flex	20200420	mh3016	15:05	348	kota kinat	12:15	tawau twu
20	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_promo	20200420	mh3016	15:05	0	kota kinat	12:15	tawau twu
21	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_smart	20200420	mh3016	15:05	0	kota kinat	12:15	tawau twu
22	20200413	malaysiaairlines	business_smart	20200420	mh3041	7:05	0	kota kinat	6:30	labuan lbu
23	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_flex	20200420	mh3041	7:05	190	kota kinat	6:30	labuan lbu
24	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_promo	20200420	mh3041	7:05	0	kota kinat	6:30	labuan lbu
25	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_smart	20200420	mh3041	7:05	0	kota kinat	6:30	labuan lbu
26	20200413	malaysiaairlines	business_smart	20200421	mh3042	7:40	0	labuan lbu	7:05	kota kinabalu bki
27	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_flex	20200421	mh3042	7:40	190	labuan lbu	7:05	kota kinabalu bki
28	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_promo	20200421	mh3042	7:40	0	labuan lbu	7:05	kota kinabalu bki
29	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_smart	20200421	mh3042	7:40	0	labuan lbu	7:05	kota kinabalu bki
30	20200413	malaysiaairlines	business_smart	20200420	mh3043	9:00	0	kota kinat	8:25	labuan lbu
31	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_flex	20200420	mh3043	9:00	190	kota kinat	8:25	labuan lbu
32	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_promo	20200420	mh3043	9:00	0	kota kinat	8:25	labuan lbu
33	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_smart	20200420	mh3043	9:00	0	kota kinat	8:25	labuan lbu
34	20200413	malaysiaairlines	business_smart	20200421	mh3044	16:10	0	labuan lbu	15:35	kota kinabalu bki
35	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_flex	20200421	mh3044	16:10	190	labuan lbu	15:35	kota kinabalu bki
36	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_promo	20200421	mh3044	16:10	0	labuan lbu	15:35	kota kinabalu bki
37	20200413	malaysiaairlines	economy_smart	20200421	mh3044	16:10	0	labuan lbu	15:35	kota kinabalu bki

Download Data

1. Click Data Monitoring on the top left of the screen
2. Click Folder Name and Click file name
3. Status of the generated data will be displayed.
Click Download to download to local PC

PRICE INTELLIGENCE ANALYTICS

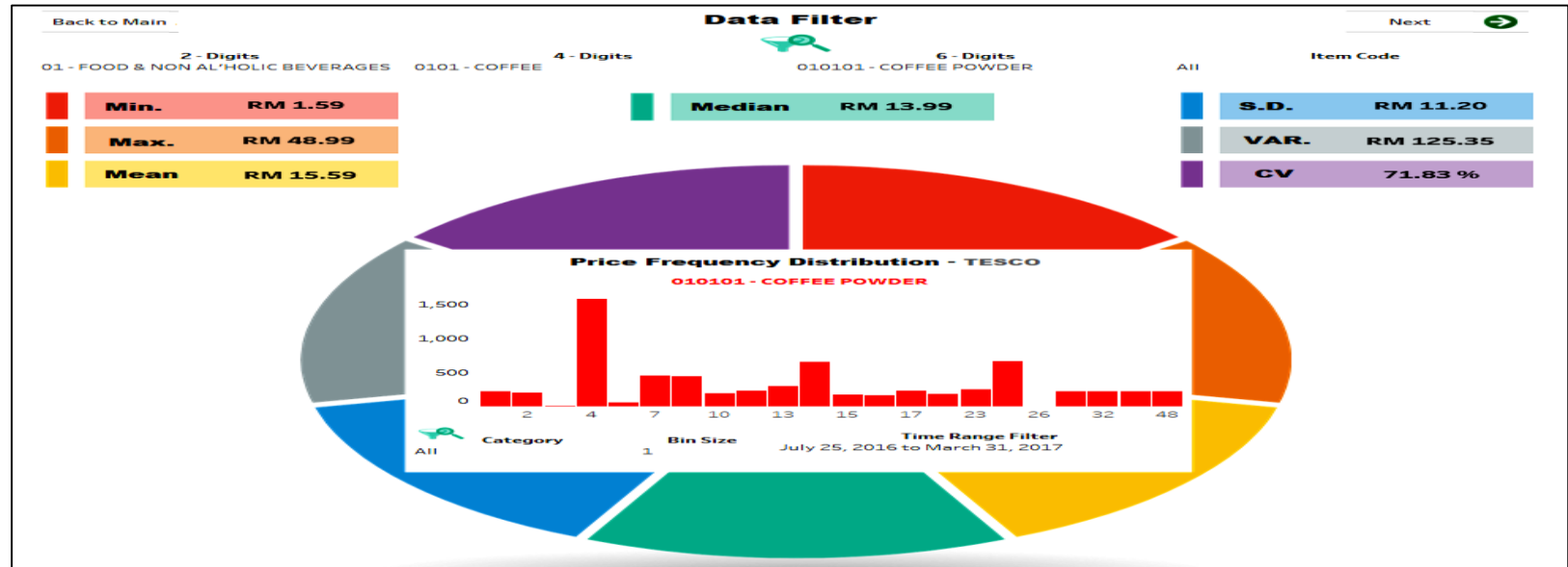


a) Trend

Trend analysis is used to evaluate data patterns based on linear approaches. There are various time series analysis techniques that can be used, such as ARIMA, Exponential Smoothing, Holt Winter, Linear Trend, Exponential and Level Aggregation.

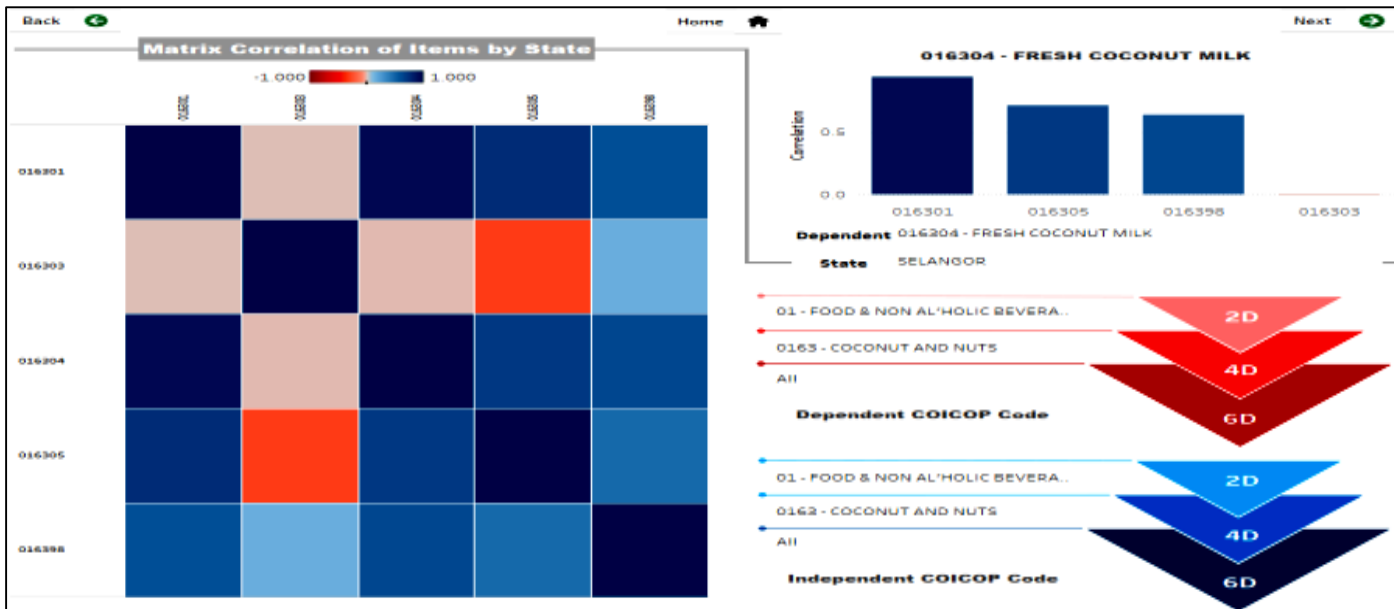
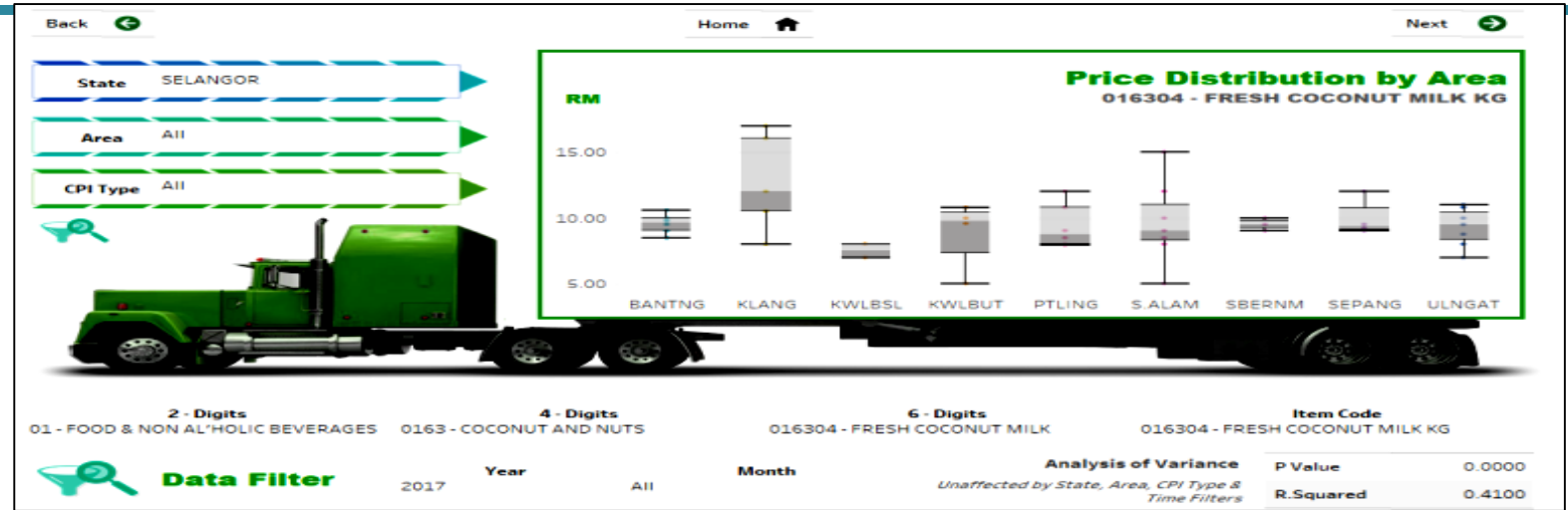
b) Descriptive

Descriptive analysis, more emphasis on data exploration summaries such as: Mean, Median, Standard Deviation, Variants, Histogram / Skewness, etc.



c) Price Basket Enrichment

Price Basket Enrichment is the process of adding data crawled from online sources into available data from the SIHP-CPI System. This process requires DOSM support because not all prices used in CPI manual calculation are available online.



d) Dependency

Dependency analysis looks for more connections between data. An example is to evaluate variables by performing factor analysis or releasing irrelevant data. Cluster analysis can be carried out to assess data relationships (correlations) and other analysis can be conducted to assess such as Factor Analysis - Cause Analysis, Correlation and Cross Category

During the pandemic Covid-19, online flight ticket prices has been used in the compilation of the CPI.

Item specification (Route)

- ☐ Kedah to Kuala Lumpur
- ☐ Johor Bahru to Kuala Lumpur
- ☐ Kuantan to Kuala Lumpur
- ☐ Penang to Kuala Lumpur
- ☐ Kuala Terengganu to Kuala Lumpur



MAC 2020

Implications of the Movement Control Order (MCO), all the price data collection at the outlet has been suspended. Data crawling has been done during the MCO for 20 main product CPI as below:

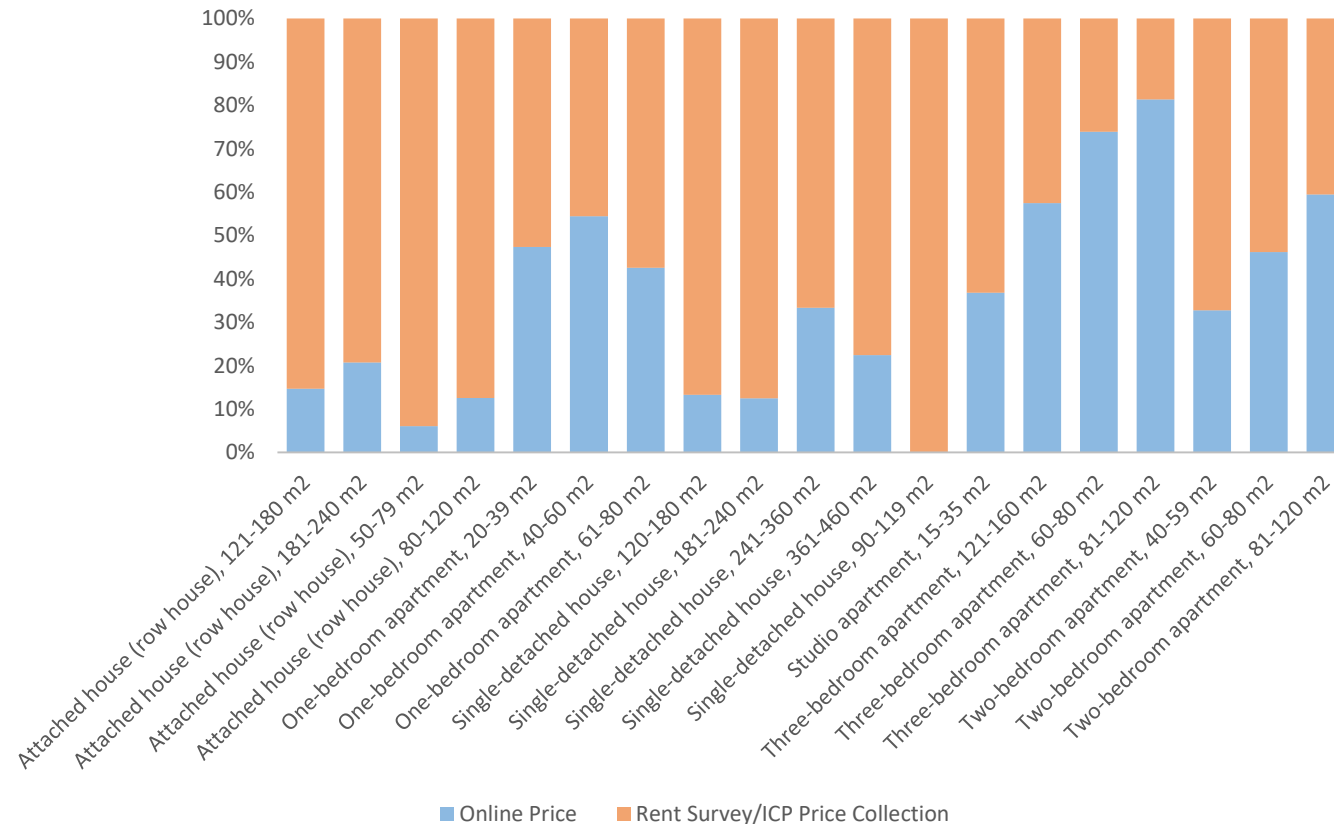
- CAP RAMBUTAN HIJAU SST RICE 5% 10KG (RICE)
- JATI BERAS SUPER SPECIAL 10KG (RICE)
- JASMINE RICE SUPER SPECIAL 5% 10KG (RICE)
- JASMINE RICE SUPER SPECIAL TEMPATAN 5KG (RICE)
- AYAM BERSIH (PELBAGAI BAHAGIAN) (CHICKEN)
- IKAN BAWAL HITAM (FISH)
- IKAN CENCARU (FISH)
- IKAN KEMBUNG (FISH)
- KUETIAU BASAH (FLAT RICE NOODLES)
- MEE KUNING BASAH (NOODLES)
- UBI KENTANG (POTATO)
- BAWANG BESAR (ONION)
- CILI KERING KERINTING (DRIED CHILLI)
- KACANG BUNCIS (FRENCH BEAN)
- KUBIS BULAT (TEMPATAN) (CABBAGE)
- LOBAK MERAH (CARROT)
- TOMATO
- SANTAN KELAPA (FRESH COCONUT MILK)
- TELUR AYAM GRED B (HEN'S EGGS GRADE B)
- *MINYAK MASAK (PELBAGAI JENAMA) (COOKING OIL)



HOUSE RENTAL PRICES FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON PROGRAM (ICP)

45.6% housing rental data for International Comparison Program 2017 (ICP2017) submission were using online price data

RENTAL HOUSING DATA SOURCED USED FOR ICP 2017

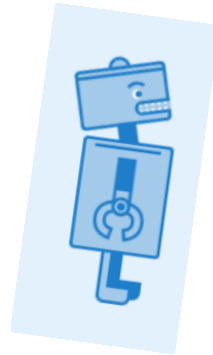


19 types of housing specification with different sizes consisting of

- Single-detached house
- Attached house (row house)
- Studio apartment
- One-bedroom apartment
- Two-bedroom apartment
- Three-bedroom apartment

LIMITATION

- ☐ Need to update crawler
- ☐ Have to build a bunch of crawlers for different sites
- ☐ The structure of websites change frequently
- ☐ Legal issues involved
- ☐ Storage limitation (huge amounts of data)
- ☐ Access and scrape data which is publicly available and avoid trying to crawl data which is private or protected by copyrights and other laws;
- ☐ Always check the website's robots.txt file



TESCO

Here to help

Guide price

Safe online shopping

Terms & Conditions

Privacy policy

About

Where we deliver

Service charge

Payment options

Tesco.com.my

Clubcard

First time shopping

How to shop

Registration

Book a delivery

Favourites

Contact us

tescohelpline@tesco.com.my

1300131313

Store locator

Intellectual Property

The content of the Tesco Website is protected by copyright, trade marks, database and other intellectual property rights. You may retrieve and display the content of the Tesco Website on a computer screen, store such content in electronic form on disk (but not any server or other storage device connected to a network) or print one copy of such content for your own personal, non-commercial use, provided you keep intact all and any copyright and proprietary notices. You may not otherwise reproduce, modify, copy or distribute or use for commercial purposes any of the materials or content on the Tesco Website without written permission from Tesco Website.

No licence is granted to you in these Terms and Conditions to use any of our trade marks.

<https://shopee.com.my/robots.txt>

```
User-Agent:Googlebot
User-Agent:Bingbot
Crawl-delay:0.1
Disallow: /cart/
Disallow: /checkout/
Disallow: /buyer/
Disallow: /user/
Disallow: /me/
Disallow: /order/
Disallow: /daily_discover/
Disallow: /mall/just-for-you/
Disallow: /mall/*-cat.
Disallow: /from_same_shop/
Disallow: /you_may_also_like/
Disallow: *-i.*/similar?from=flash_sale
Disallow: /find_similar_products/
Disallow: /top_products
Disallow: /search*searchPrefill
Disallow: /index.html .
```

```
User-Agent:*
Crawl-delay:1
Disallow: /cart/
Disallow: /checkout/
Disallow: /buyer/
Disallow: /user/
Disallow: /me/
Disallow: /order/
Disallow: /daily_discover/
Disallow: /mall/just-for-you/
Disallow: /mall/*-cat.
Disallow: /from_same_shop/
Disallow: /you_may_also_like/
Disallow: *-i.*/similar
Disallow: /find_similar_products/
Disallow: /top_products
Disallow: /search*searchPrefill
Disallow: /index.html
```

A robots.txt file tells search engine crawlers which pages or files the crawler can or can't request from your site. This is used mainly to avoid overloading your site with requests; **it is not a mechanism for keeping a web page out of Google**. To keep a web page out of Google, you should use [noindex directives](#), or password-protect your page.

A robots.txt file is used primarily to manage crawler traffic to your site, and *usually* to keep a file off Google, depending on the file type.

Source:

<https://developers.google.com/search/docs/advanced/robots/intro>

1 Forecasting prices of fish and vegetable using web scraped price micro data

- Mazliana Mustapa, Raja Rajeswari Ponnusamy, Ho Ming Kang

2 Online and Offline Prices: Measuring selected home appliance's products

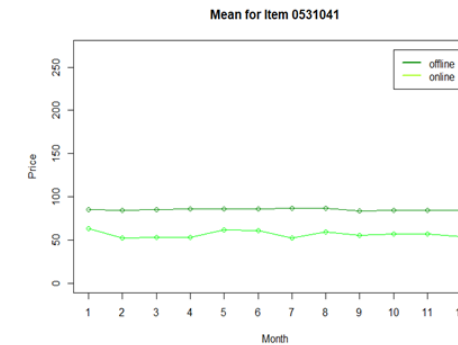
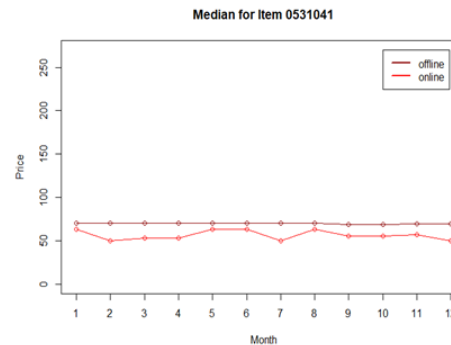
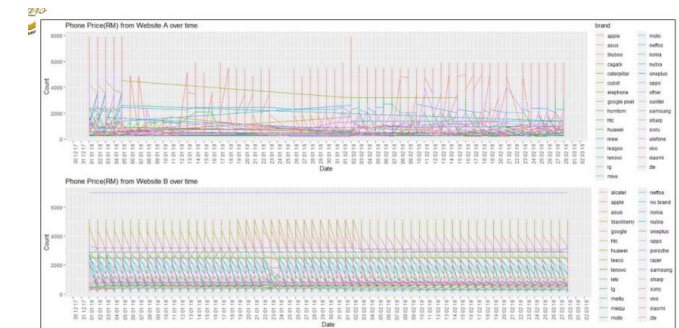
- Mohd Saiful Husain and Norsyela Muhammad Noor Mathivanan

3 Analysis of the Mobile Phones Prices Malaysia using Web Scraped Data

- Nur Hurriyatul Huda Abdullah Sani

Table 3: ARIMA best model

Item	Model
Red Bream	$Y_t = 2.4205 - 0.0333Y_{t-1} + 0.6382Y_{t-2} + 0.0594 + 0.9688e_{t-1}$
Selar Kuning	$Y_t = 1.4794 - 1.6648Y_{t-1} - 0.7431Y_{t-2} + e_t - 0.7924e_{t-1}$
Green Spinach	$Y_t = 1.1813 + 1.7246Y_{t-1} - 0.7774Y_{t-2} + 0.1008 - 0.8126e_{t-1}$
Kangkung	$Y_t = 1.0995 + 1.7293Y_{t-1} - 0.7776Y_{t-2} + 0.1023 - 0.8315e_{t-1}$
Long Beans	$Y_t = 0.5460 + 0.3667Y_{t-1} + 0.0780 + 0.4322e_{t-1} + 0.2638e_{t-2}$
Bawal, Cencaru, Kembong, Round Cabbage and Sawi Jepun	$Y_t = \mu + Y_{t-1}$ where μ : mean of the changes of period to period





<https://statsbda.dosm.gov.my/>

Mazliana Mustapa
Core Team Big Data Analytics
Department of Statistics Malaysia

Team Price Intelligence
mazliana@dosm.gov.my
ridhuan@dosm.gov.my
noradilah.adnan@dosm.gov.my

THANK YOU

BANCI MALAYSIA

POPULATION & HOUSING
**CENSUS
MALAYSIA 2020**

YOUR DATA IS OUR FUTURE



**Make Sure You're
COUNTED**

For More Info : www.dosm.gov.my
www.mycensus.gov.my

